BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 97-239-C - ORDER NO. 2003-692

DECEMBER 8, 2003

IN RE: Proceeding to Establish Guidelines for an Intrastate Universal Service Fund) ORDER ESTABLISHING PREFILING DEADLINES

This matter is before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) for the purpose of establishing prefiling deadlines for testimony and exhibits regarding the Requests of Bluffton Telephone Company, Inc. ("Bluffton"), Hargray Telephone Company, Inc. ("Hargray"), Home Telephone Company, Inc. ("Home"), Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("Horry"), PBT Telecom, Inc. ("PBT"), ALLTEL South Carolina, Inc. ("ALLTEL"), and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") (collectively, the "Applicants" or "Companies") for funding from the State Universal Service Fund pursuant to Commission Order No. 2001-419.

Pursuant to 26 S.C. Regs.103-869(C)(Supp. 2002), the Commission hereby orders that twenty-five copies of the direct testimony and exhibits of the Applicants shall be prefiled on or before **December 31, 2003**, and that twenty-five copies of the direct testimony and exhibits of the Commission Staff and all other parties shall be prefiled on or before **January 14, 2004**. (Direct testimony and exhibits may be post-marked on these dates.) Also, any rebuttal testimony and exhibits shall be prefiled on or before **January 21, 2004**, and any surrebuttal testimony and exhibits shall be prefiled on or before **January 23, 2004**. (Rebuttal testimony and exhibits and surrebuttal testimony and

exhibits must be in the offices of the Commission and in the hands of the parties on these

dates.) It should be noted that acceptance into the record of surrebuttal testimony and

exhibits is subject to the discretion of the Commission.

In addition, parties shall serve their prefiled testimony and exhibits on all other

parties of record as required by the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All parties are

reminded that all witnesses must be present during any hearing in this matter at the call of

the Chairman, or the Commission may decline to allow the witnesses' testimony to be

read into the record of the proceeding, and/or may decline to allow the witnesses'

exhibits to be entered into the evidence of the case.

Please take note that any party requesting modification of this schedule must file a

request for such modification with the Commission.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Mignon L. Clyburn, Chairman

ATTEST:

Bruce F. Duke, Deputy Executive Director

(SEAL)